I myself am a cell phone user, but I believe that proposed cellular telephone use on airplanes is a terrible idea. Cell phone users already intrude into too many public spaces--restaurants, theaters, concerts, athletic events, etc. As an airline passenger, I would be subjected to listening to phone conversations in an environment in which I can't get away. Multiply that by any number of self-important cell phone users, and you would be inviting stress, additional noise, and conflict on board an aircraft.

Cell phone users already tend to speak more loudly than they need to. On an aircraft, they will want to raise the volume of their voices to be heard above the noise of the plane. If a typical plane holds 120 passengers and even just 10% use their cell phones at the same time, there would be a dozen loud conversations occuring simultaneously.

Flying is already a stressful event, especially with the added security measures that require more of our time to catch even a simple one-hour commuter flight. The animosity that could be generated with cell phone use will raise the stress level for everyone in a very confined space, and any basic psychology textbook will tell you that human beings do not cope well when confined. Flight personnel already have difficult jobs, and cell phone use will require them to spend time dealing with annoyed and upset passengers.

If there are any costs incurred by airlines to allow cellular use, I am not willing to absorb those costs as a consumer. I strongly urge you to consider the potential for serious problems and the well-being of the public by striking down this proposal.